

What Makes a Successful Entrepreneur?

Name _____ Period _____ Date _____

Do you often wonder what it takes to be a successful entrepreneur? Let's take a look at some published biographies of people who are worth millions because they put their ideas to work!

Assignment: You have a choice: (1) You can choose a name from the following list **or** (2) search for someone in the business world you are interested in. Then answer the following questions.

Suggestions: *(please note: you are welcome to use additional websites to gather the information)*

Sam Walton, Founder and CEO Wal-mart

<http://www.stfrancis.edu/ba/ghkickul/stuwebs/bbios/biograph/walton1.htm>

Bill Gates, Microsoft Chairman and Chief Software Architect

<http://www.microsoft.com/billgates/bio.asp>

<http://ei.cs.vt.edu/~history/Gates.Mirick.html>

Michael Dell, Chairman of the Board and CEO Dell Computers

<http://www.dell.com/Learn/us/en/uscorp1/bios/michael-dell-bio?c=us&l=en&s=corp>

Jeff Bezos, Founder and CEO Amazon

<http://www.biography.com/people/jeff-bezos-9542209>

1. What is the name of the entrepreneur you read about? What website did you access?
2. What is the name of the company he/she owns?
3. What product(s)/service(s) does the business sell/produce?
4. How did the business start? Year?
5. At what age did he/she realize that they wanted to start a business or sell a product?
6. Where did the idea come from?
7. How/where did he/she receive funding to get started?
8. What aspects of this business make it so successful?
9. What risks do you suppose were involved with the start-up of this business (remember to think about competition, location, product need/demand, initial costs, etc.)?
10. What is the future outlook for this business?